



die of this month, and that every man that values his own freedom, and is willing to strive for the freedom of all men, agree to be there on that day.

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1852.

**CAMPION SUBSCRIBERS.**—We omit this week the advertisement for Campaign Subscribers, as the Presidential election will take place in a little more than two weeks, and we are now unable to supply campaign papers from the first of this month. The shortest time henceforth for which subscriptions will be received, is half a year. The attention of subscribers is invited to our standing terms, inserted below; and they are also reminded that the postage on the *Era* is now as follows:

Under the old system, the rates ranged from twenty cents a year to one dollar. A very few of the subscribers to the *Era* paid twenty cents; some, a little further off, forty cents; the great majority, sixty cents; many, among them, citizens of Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota, eighty cents; while subscribers living in California, New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah, were charged a dollar. Under the new rates the postage is equalized for all distances; so that our subscribers, if they pay in advance at the offices where they receive their papers, will be charged only twenty-five cents postage a year. Let them bear this in mind.

It is to be hoped that subscribers whose times are about to expire, will promptly renew, so as to keep up their files during the rest of the canvass, and keep themselves advised of the progress and results of the election.

As our list has now a fair start, having run up to twenty-one thousand, we hope by the favor of active friends to keep it going.

### STANDING TERMS.

Single copy, one year - \$2  
Three copies, one year - 5  
Five copies, one year - 8  
Ten copies, one year - 15  
Single copy, six months - 1  
Ten copies, six months - 8

Voluntary agents are entitled to retain 50 cents commission on each new yearly, and 25 cents on each new semi-yearly, subscriber, except in the case of clubs. Twenty-five cents is the commission on the renewal of an old subscriber.

A club of three subscribers (one of whom may be an old one) at \$5, will entitle the person making it up to a copy of the *Era* three months; a club of five (two of whom may be old ones) at \$8, to a copy for six months; a club of ten (five of whom may be old ones) at \$15, to a copy for one year.

Money to be forwarded by mail, at our risk. Large amounts may be remitted in drafts or certificates of deposit.

It will be seen that the price of the paper, single copy, is still \$2 a year. Agents sometimes allow a subscriber, whom they obtain or renew the benefit of their commission, so that the subscriber by their kindness gets his paper for \$1.50 or \$1.75, as the case may be.

**BANKING IN THE DISTRICT.**—We count, in one of our exchanges, some twenty-five private banking establishments, set up here lately. For the most part, they are irresponsible.

Occasionally, subscriptions are sent us in this District. We wish now to apprise our friends that when they would send us pay in notes of the District of Columbia, they must be one of the following banks:

Bank of Commerce, Georgetown; Hugh B. Sweeney, Cashier.  
Bank of the Metropolis, Washington; J. W. Maury, President; Richard Smith, Cashier.  
Bank of Washington, Washington; William Gunton, President; Jas. Adams, Cashier.  
Patriotic Bank, Washington; G. C. Grammer, President; C. Bestor, Cashier.  
Exchange Bank, Washington; W. Selden, President; W. C. Bestor, Cashier.  
Potomac Savings Bank, Washington; John F. Callan, President; T. M. Hanson, Cashier.

### THE FRIEND OF YOUTH.

The editor of the *Friend of Youth*, pressed by domestic cares, finds it necessary to transfer his paper to other hands. With the third volume, which closed on the first of this month, his connection with it terminated, and he transferred it to Grace Greenwood. As Miss Clarke is absent, however, the further publication of the paper will be deferred till her return, next spring.

### DOCUMENTS FOR THE CANVASS.

The money sent us for documents are immediately handed over with the orders to A. M. Ganger, the Treasurer of the Independent Democratic Association, and there connection with the matter ends. Should the documents fail, or be delayed, communications must be addressed to him, not to us. Some delay was unavoidable, owing to the want of funds to print the documents, but this has been overcome, and the orders, we learn, have at length been filled.

### MRS. STOWE, HENRY WARD BEECHER, AND THEIR ASSAILANTS.

A week or two ago, the *New York Observer* made a daring attack on Mrs. Stowe and her brother, Henry Ward Beecher, accusing the former of a libel on the Rev. Joel Parker, for which Christian minister had brought suit against her, laying the damages at \$30,000, and charging the latter with forgery, in publishing certain letters over the signature of Joel Parker, which that gentleman never signed or authorized to be published.

The article in the *Observer* was unmanly, base, and venomous, and the editor, also a Christian minister, informed his readers that he had served it up for their "entertainment," that is, had publicly assailed a woman—a wife, a mother, a sister—as a gross libeller, and a brother minister as a forger, for the special "entertainment" of his readers! Bright exemplar of Christian charity! His notion of an "entertainment" suggests the idea of the banquet on human flesh and blood, so savory in the nostrils of his New Zealand brethren.

Such an assault could not be suffered to pass unnoticed. A painful transaction thus dragged to light, and horribly distorted by a diabolical ignominy. Mr. Beecher felt constrained to publish a full statement of all the facts in the case. It occupies a large space in the columns of the *Independent*, and has also been republished in the *New York Evening Post*. We need hardly say that it is all that his best friends could wish—full, clear, well-tempered, and, as a vindication of himself and his noble sister, eloquent and triumphant.

We shall publish the whole history of this transaction next week, merely calling attention now to the origin of it—the alleged libel by Mrs. Stowe.

One year ago, last August, the following language was ascribed by Mrs. Stowe, in one of the chapters of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, to Dr. Joel Parker:

"Slavery has no evil but such as are inseparable from any other relations in social and domestic life."

This language had been quoted again and again, for years, as the language of Dr. Parker. It had passed the Atlantic, and was made a subject of comment in English periodicals. It had come back, and was quoted, as from Dr. Parker, in the Annual Report of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, a copy of which was sent to that gentleman. He had never contradicted it—no friend had ever con-

tradicted it—its authenticity rested on the same evidence as that of the sayings attributed to other public characters. Mrs. Stowe, finding that he belonged to the pro-slavery school of divines, introduced it in her work, not to defame Dr. Parker, but as conducive to the dramatic effect of a certain part of her story. Still, no contradiction appeared; eight months after the story was issued in book form, but not till it began to have a world-wide circulation, did Dr. Parker deem it necessary to deny the quotation attributed to him. He wrote to Mrs. Stowe, in an indignant tone, pronounced the quotation a calumny, and demanded a full and an instant retraction, threatening legal process should it be refused. Then commenced a correspondence between them, characterized by heat, haste, and arrogance on his part—by firmness, kindness, and an anxious desire to do justice, on her part.

It was not satisfactory to the minister, who appears to have been trained in the doctrine that implicit submission is always the duty of the woman, and so he sued her, laying the damages at \$20,000—understanding, we suppose, that this would be about the amount that Uncle Tom might yield her.

To show the immense injury sustained by this Christ-like minister! we place in parallel columns what Dr. Parker says he did say, and what Mrs. Stowe, on the strength of general testimony, unimpeached at that time, quoted in her book, as spoken by him:

What he did say. What he was believed by Mrs. Stowe to have said.  
"What, then, are the evils inseparable from Slavery? There are no evils that are not equally inseparable from depraved human nature in its low and lawless relations."  
"Such is the libel! It is rather hard, that having contributed but a single sentence to the book, the reverend prosecutor should now seek to secure the whole amount of its profits, and stab the reputation of its gentle author. We can tell him that his unmanly conduct in this case is calculated to do more injury to his order, than all the good his preaching has ever done it."

Others in the language of Mr. Birney, "more deprecate" the election of Mr. Pierce, and for various reasons. He accepts the nomination for the Presidency, and the platform, because he cordially approves of the principles of the latter: General Scott accepts the nomination, and the platform, but the latter, evidently, as an incumbent. The Democratic platform was adopted in the Democratic Convention without a struggle or a division; the Whig platform was adopted by the Whig Convention, after a sharp struggle, and in opposition to sixty-six negatives. Gen. Pierce was the chosen nominee of the ultra Pro-Slavery members of the Democratic Convention; General Scott was the chosen nominee of those members of the Whig Convention, who specially resented the adoption of the Compromise and Fugitive Law. The two candidates occupy the same ground in relation to these measures, but there is reason to believe that Slavery Propagandism will be winked at by Gen. Pierce, discontinued by Gen. Scott. Plots for the annexation of Cuba, and the dismemberment of Mexico, are thickening. In the character of Gen. Pierce, in his party training, in the history of the influences which secured his nomination, there is no reason to hope that he would interpose against these heinous schemes; while the character, position, and relations of Gen. Scott do authorize the expectation of such interposition, should he be elected—not so much because of any Anti-Slavery sentiment he may entertain, but because of that natural Conservatism of the Whig Party, which shrinks even from real progress, lest it may disturb existing relations. Above all, the Democratic Party is the strong Party of the country. It never shrinks from taking the responsibility, and, if it succeed on a false principle, it will not hesitate to bring all the powerful machinery at its command, to enforce that principle. Defeat it, whenever it assumes a false position on the question of Slavery, and it will eventually take a true one; and in that case, its action on the question would be energetic and conclusive, not like that of the Whigs—feeble, hesitating, and compromising.

### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCES OF THE FREE DEMOCRACY.

The supporters of the Pittsburgh nominations sustain them and intend to vote for them in good faith:

First, on the ground of consistency. The regularly authorized Conventions of the Democratic and Whig Parties saw proper to endorse the Compromise, and to recognize it as a final settlement of the Slavery question, to sanction the Fugitive Slave Law, and to pronounce it irrevocable. Their Presidential candidates were selected with a clear understanding that their views on these subjects corresponded with the declarations of the Conventions; and by letter they have publicly affirmed such correspondence.

To accept the candidates and reject the platforms, is deemed a mockery: they are one and inseparable. To "split upon" the platform is to "split upon" him who sustains it.

The supporters of the Pittsburgh nominations opposed the passage of the Compromise, and the Fugitive Law; they approve of neither; they do not regard the one as irrevocable, or the other as a final settlement, or any settlement at all, of the Slavery Question. They are therefore constrained to oppose and vote against the platforms and candidates of the Whigs and Democrats, and to sustain and vote for, their own platform and candidate, representing as they do, their views in relation to the Compromise and Fugitive Law, which are the issues forced upon them by the Slave Power.

Secondly, on the ground of policy. Acquiescence in the action of the two old parties would strengthen the power and augment the demands of Slavery; place the liberal members of those organizations at the mercy of a tyrannical Pro-Slavery Conservatism, and repress agitation. An independent political organization, representing distinctly the Sentiment of Human Freedom, openly hostile to Slavery, pledged to active resistance to its demands, and through the press and the ballot-box manifesting its purpose to establish Liberty as the Universal Law within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, will act as a counterbalancing force to the Slave Power, keep up a Public Opinion adverse to its usurpations, impose restraints upon the servility of the old Parties, in many cases be able to visit retribution upon politicians most conspicuous for their hostility to the Anti-Slavery cause, and, at last, so far change the character of existing political organizations as to secure to the Anti-Slavery Principle its just influence in the councils of the nation. In the present contest, the Free Democracy may not carry a single State, but it will cast a decisive vote; so that it will not be difficult then to determine which of the old parties it has defeated. The simple fact that it has accomplished such a result, will teach the successful Party, moderation, and the defeated one, wisdom.

Besides—by keeping up an independent organization during the National election, a lever is secured for efficient action upon State politics. In this way, for example, the Free Democracy has succeeded in the election of three distinguished members of the United States Senate, and several able members of the House of Representatives, and in modifying to a great extent the legislation of some of the States.

This is a brief summary of the reasons on which the Free Democracy justifies its independent action.

But, while its adherents unite in this policy, clinging to it in good faith, and think it of paramount importance to make the strongest possible demonstration at the ballot-box, they are not, generally, indifferent to the result of the contest as between the two old parties. In 1844, the Liberty men were steadfast to their own organization, but some desired the election of Mr. Clay, some, the election of Mr. Polk, just as they deemed the one or the other event calculated to work less mischief to their cause. We recollect well that Mr. Birney, their Presidential candidate, was unreserved in his avowal of a preference for the election of Mr. Polk, and to this avowal of opinion a very intelligent Democratic politician, in our hearing, a few days since, attributed the Democratic triumph in New York, which decided, as we knew, the fate of the election of '44. Mr. Birney, it may be remembered, while a Presidential candidate, was nominated by the Democrats of his county, Michigan, for the Legislature. In a letter, denying that any coalition had taken place, which was published in the Cincinnati Weekly Herald of October 23, 1844, was the following passage:

"I oppose his election (Mr. Clay's) because he disbelieves the great political truths of the Declaration of Independence, the foundation of all just Governments, and because he repudiates the paramount object of the Union—the perpetuation of Liberty to all. On the same ground, I oppose the election of Mr. Polk. But I more deprecate the election of Mr. Clay—because, possessing abilities superior to Mr. Polk's, he would proportionally weaken the influence of those truths on the minds of our countrymen."

In other words, he desired specially the defeat of that candidate whose election would be more dangerous to the Cause he advocated; and yet he desired still more to see a large vote given for the Liberty nomination.

A fair-minded man, not embittered by the spirit of partisanship, would have received such an explanation gladly, and apologized courteously for any suspicion he might have expressed—but how does the *Republic* receive it? It publishes it, and adds—

"We have nothing to retract, and feel under no obligation to apologize. Our inquiries related to the conduct of Mr. Soule in his public capacity, and were justified by his prolonged absence from the position assigned to him by the Senate. Mr. Soule has directed the publication of a reply. We communicate its purport to our readers, and so the matter rests, without favor or apology on either side."

How rudely the partisan tramples upon the amenities of life! Why should ordinary courtesy be deemed out of place in our political controversies? Where to have positive evidence of race, apply the word and produce the evidence; but by what rule of justice or good manners, are we to suspect, insinuate, or charge race, because a man happens to entertain a different view of politics from that held by us?

Some would prefer to see the Whigs overthrown, for different reasons, such as: their pretensions are higher, and therefore it would be pleasant to see them more signally rebuked; or, there is a stronger natural affinity between them and the Slave Power, and they are overthrown on account of their adoption of the Compromise and a Compromise candidate, they will be obliged at once to assume Anti-Slavery ground, and the Democratic Party would then be compelled to pursue a liberal course on the Slavery Question, or be split by the outward pressure of Anti-Slavery sentiment and the internal action of its Anti-Slavery members; which would not happen, should the Democrats be defeated; for they would then, Anti-Slavery and Pro-Slavery Democrats, rally again, in combination with the Slave Power, to regain their ascendancy, while the Whigs, in power, would pursue, as their Administration has done for the last three years, a Pro-Slavery line of policy. In confirmation of the last view, we are referred to the condition of Parties under Mr. Polk's Administration, when the Whigs generally in the Northern States, being out of power, took an Anti-Slavery position, and the Democrats, being in power, divided on the Slavery issue. On the other hand, the Whigs, in power, under Mr. Fillmore, backed out of their Anti-Slavery position, and the Democrats, out of power, re-united their forces upon a platform dictated by the Slave Power.

Others in the language of Mr. Birney, "more deprecate" the election of Mr. Pierce, and for various reasons. He accepts the nomination for the Presidency, and the platform, because he cordially approves of the principles of the latter: General Scott accepts the nomination, and the platform, but the latter, evidently, as an incumbent. The Democratic platform was adopted in the Democratic Convention without a struggle or a division; the Whig platform was adopted by the Whig Convention, after a sharp struggle, and in opposition to sixty-six negatives. Gen. Pierce was the chosen nominee of the ultra Pro-Slavery members of the Democratic Convention; General Scott was the chosen nominee of those members of the Whig Convention, who specially resented the adoption of the Compromise and Fugitive Law. The two candidates occupy the same ground in relation to these measures, but there is reason to believe that Slavery Propagandism will be winked at by Gen. Pierce, discontinued by Gen. Scott. Plots for the annexation of Cuba, and the dismemberment of Mexico, are thickening. In the character of Gen. Pierce, in his party training, in the history of the influences which secured his nomination, there is no reason to hope that he would interpose against these heinous schemes; while the character, position, and relations of Gen. Scott do authorize the expectation of such interposition, should he be elected—not so much because of any Anti-Slavery sentiment he may entertain, but because of that natural Conservatism of the Whig Party, which shrinks even from real progress, lest it may disturb existing relations. Above all, the Democratic Party is the strong Party of the country. It never shrinks from taking the responsibility, and, if it succeed on a false principle, it will not hesitate to bring all the powerful machinery at its command, to enforce that principle. Defeat it, whenever it assumes a false position on the question of Slavery, and it will eventually take a true one; and in that case, its action on the question would be energetic and conclusive, not like that of the Whigs—feeble, hesitating, and compromising.

The Committee has been in session a large portion of the time since the adjournment of Congress, and its investigation has been thorough and comprehensive.

A few days since it closed its work, and rendered a unanimous report, signed by King and Howard, Democrats, and Chapman, Whigs—Johnson, Democrat, and Goodrich, Whig, being absent.

The report, we regard, as a complete refutation of the base charges against Mr. Corwin. We transfer all that portion of it which relates to his connection with the claim:

"In relation to the second branch of the inquiry, the Committee has the honor to state, that the present Secretary of the Treasury, with the said Gardiner claim, the following facts appear from the testimony upon the points directed by the resolution to be investigated: 'In May, 1849, in the same month, and previous to his going into the Cabinet of President Fillmore, as Secretary of the Treasury, a President of the United States Senate, was employed as counsel in the Gardiner claim by Hon. Waddy Thompson, the original counsel of Gardiner, upon an agreement that Mr. Corwin should show the fee five per cent on whatever sum should be awarded to Gardiner by the Commissioners. In February, 1850, Thomas Corwin, in company with Robert G. 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